

Bethel Bt

1883

MINUTES.

The Sixty-Third Annual Session of the BETHEL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION convened with the Grove Hill Church, on Thursday morning, October 4, 1883, and was called to order at 11 o'clock by the Moderator, J. W. Jones.

Prayer by Elder Hughey Adams.

The Introductory Sermon, from First Peter, 2: 9, was preached by Elder P. C. Drew.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.—Opened with prayer by Bro. W. K. Thomas.

Preparatory to permanent organization the Church Letters were called for.

Elder H. Adams moved to dispense with reading same, and that they be referred to a Committee on Credentials. Adopted.

On motion names of Messengers were enrolled as follows :

Bethel.—P. C. Drew, J. B. Perkins and L. M. Bradley.

Bethlehem.—W. K. Thomas, W. A. Parker, G. W. Barclay and J. A. Braswell.

Rehoboth.—L. M. Bradley.

Boiling Springs.—

Antioch.—

Providence.—Wm. Glass.

Spring Hill.—J. C. Kelly and T. T. Daughdrill.

Mt. Pleasant.—J. W. Jones and J. Q. Lipscomb.

Aimwell.—T. J. Rogers and George Smith.

Nanafalia.—J. L. Tucker and A. G. Westbrook.

Hills.—C. H. Miller.

Shiloh.—S. P. Tucker, S. P. Jackson, J. A. Huccabee and N. Henson.

Canaan.—James Pearson.

Goose Creek.—S. H. Kelly, J. W. Dugaway and T. H. McCasky.

Concord.—W. F. Setzler and L. M. Cammack.

Pisgah.—L. W. Godbold and N. Sheffield.

Enon.—Nathan Thomas.

Lower Peach Tree.—J. W. Gibson and R. H. Mott.

Cane Creek.—O. P. Kelly and Robert Green.

Deep Creek.—W. H. DeWitt and T. K. Nichols.

Hoboken.—Robert Hasty and W. B. Williams.

New Prospect.—William J. Clanton.

Satilpa.—O. P. Cassity, R. N. Henderson and L. A. Cassity.

Forest Springs.—A. J. Hearn, J. W. Armistead and D. F. Little.

Ulcounsh.—S. H. Webb and J. D. Beadwell.

New Hope.—David White, W. F. Fontaine and Parson Davis.

Elam.—J. G. Williams, J. D. Hudson and J. D. Griffin.

New Liberty.—

Mt. Gilead.—N. E. Drew and J. W. McGill.

Horeb.—J. Hiram Creighton, Wm. Hill and T. A. Creighton.

Rocky Mount.—

Rockville.—N. J. Brady, Frank Payne and H. W. Brady.

Pleasant Grove.—John A. Hill.

Grove Hill.—S. R. McClure, Isaac Grant and D. A. Chapman.

River Hill.—J. J. Lambert and J. J. Levins.

Salem.—W. B. Kennedy, J. A. Cobb and W. L. Garrick.

Hopewell.—

Amity.—D. Foreman, Dr. B. Borroughs and J. A. Pruitt.

West Bend.—G. M. Parker, J. R. Cowan, A. J. Pace and W. F. Thornton.

Friendship.—J. B. Small, James Webb, F. E. Small and James Pritchett.

State Creek.—R. J. W. DeWitt, J. V. Springer and G. W. Walker.

Basset's Creek.—J. H. Fendly, W. C. Fendly and J. T. Daniels.

Linden.—F. H. McGill.

Peniel.—J. D. Payne, H. H. Cox and J. A. Bolen.

Evergreen.—Charles H. Brady.

Flat Woods Chapel.—

Elder P. C. Drew moved to elect Bro. John W. Jones Moderator and Bro. J. R. Cowan Clerk. Carried, and these brethren made proper acknowledgments and accepted.

The Committee on Order of Business for this session having had their report published in the "Alabama Baptist," read it, and it was adopted.

Elder J. W. Dickinson was, on motion, recognized as a messenger from Grove Hill Church.

The Committee on Revision of the Constitution was allowed until to-morrow to report.

On motion, all ministers were recognized as *ex-officio* members of this Association.

Mt. Vernon Church presented a letter asking membership in this body. Granted, and the hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator. Her messengers were Wm. Hinson, W. T. Kimbrough and L. V. Champion.

Dr. T. M. Baily was recognized as Corresponding Messenger of Cahaba Association and Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer of the State Mission Board.

The Moderator announced the following committees:

On Finance.—J. B. Perkins, David White and T. T. Daughdrill.

On Nominations, Documents and Requests.—James W. Armistead, L. W. Godbold and Isaac Grant.

On Preaching.—A. J. Pace, T. A. Creighton and Pastor and Deacons of Grove Hill Church.

On Alabama Baptist and Foreign Mission Journal.—R. M. Hunter and J. W. Dunaway.

On Correspondence.—W. B. Williams and W. K. Thomas.

The regular order of business was suspended and a motion reconsidering the motion that dispensed with reading the church letters was adopted by *one* majority, and Elders P. C. Drew and Wm. A. Parker read the letters.

The Committee on Preaching announced, through the Moderator, Elder Wm. A. Parker to preach in this house at 7½ this evening.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

FRIDAY—9 A. M.

Reassembled and spent one hour in devotional exercises.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended and the following resolution, by Elder P. C. Drew, adopted:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to ascertain the churches that have instructed their delegates to ask letters of dismission from this Association and report this evening under the head of Miscellaneous Business.

Regular order resumed.

The Committee on the John Talbert Fund made a report.

Adopted, and committee continued. [See Appendix A.]

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Pastors of the various churches in this Association be requested by this body to take up collections at their churches for the John Talbert Fund, to be forwarded to the committee as early as November 20, 1883.

Elder P. C. Drew contributed cash \$1.00.

The Committee on Missions reported. Elder F. M. McGill discussed State Missions. Elder G. M. Parker spoke of his experience in that field as a missionary of the State Board, showing that he had accomplished a good work. Elder James W. Dickinson discussed Home Missions. Elder L. M. Bradly offered an amendment to the report which was accepted. Elder P. C. Drew moved to suspend further discussion of the report until 7½ P. M., and to invite a mass meeting for that purpose. Motion prevailed.

The Committee on the Revision of the Constitution submitted their report, which was adopted, [see Appendix B,] and the Association adjourned until the afternoon.

MET pursuant to adjournment at 2 o'clock P. M. The Association joined Bro. Lee Tucker in prayer.

Regular order suspended for the committee on the withdrawal of churches to report. Report adopted, showing that "the following churches favor a division of the Bethel Baptist Association, and ask for letters of dismissal therefrom, viz: Horeb, Rockville, Grove Hill, Amity, Peniel, River Hill, Stave Creek, Pleasant Grove, New Hope, Deep Creek, Evergreen, Forest Springs, Salem, Cane Creed, Uleonush, New Prospect, Mt. Gilead, Elam, Mt. Vernon, Satilpa, Hoboken, Basset's Creek and Lower Peach Tree.

(Signed,)

"H. C. GARRET, Chairman."

Elder P. C. Drew offered the following :

Resolved, That the petitions for letters of dismissal from this Association on the part of certain churches be considered at the conclusion of this session of the body.

Adopted.

The Moderator announced the following Committee on Distribution, to-wit: P. C. Drew, J. W. Dickinson, J. W. Armistead and J. C. Kelly.

Regular order resumed.

The Committee on Ministerial Education submitted their report. Discussed by Dr. Baily and Elder Drew.

Pending the discussion of this report Brothers L. W. Cammack and J. A. Huccabee were adopted as beneficiaries of Bethel Association, and the following collection taken for their support at school :

CASH.		PLEDGES.	
J. R. Cowan.....	\$ 1 00	W. B. Williams.....	\$10 00
J. W. Jones.....	1 00	J. B. Small.....	5 00
J. H. Creighton.....	2 00	J. W. Dunaway.....	5 00
W. A. Parker.....	2 00	William Glass.....	2 50
G. M. Parker.....	3 50	Shiloh Church.....	10 00
W. F. Fontaine.....	1 00	A. G. Westbrook.....	2 50
J. W. Pearson.....	25	S. P. Tucker.....	5 00
J. W. Dickinson.....	2 50	Mrs. W. F. Perkins, Miss K.	
Pope Dunning.....	1 00	Perkins and Miss M. King.	5 00
R. G. Fendly.....	25	Miss Lucy Nichols.....	1 00
Sister Dacy.....	50	Miss Maggie Nichols.....	1 00
Isaac Grant.....	5 00	Miss Mattie Williams.....	1 00
C. H. Miller.....	1 10	W. U. ———.....	1 00
A. J. Pace.....	5 00	W. C. Fendly.....	1 00
A. Sister.....	50	L. L. McLeod.....	1 00
L. W. Godbold.....	1 00	T. M. Baily.....	5 00
J. C. Kelly.....	1 00	F. H. McGill.....	5 00
J. H. Fendly.....	1 00	W. H. DeWitt (for his church)	10 00
Sister M. E. Creighton.....	1 00	W. K. Thomas.....	2 50
Unknown.....	50	J. A. Hill.....	2 50
Mrs. R. R. Presnall.....	1 00	Dr. Jack Wittles.....	2 50
J. J. Dacy.....	1 00	P. Davis.....	5 00
W. R. Robinson.....	1 00		
W. B. Glass.....	50		
Total Cash.....	\$34 50	Total Pledges.....	\$83 50

The report was adopted. [Appendix C.]

The following resolution was then offered and adopted, to-wit:

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of J. B. Perkins, W. F. Setzler and W. K. Thomas, be appointed to take charge of the fund collected to aid Brethren Cammack and Huccabee, and to select a school and superintend their education for the associational year.

And the Association adjourned until 7½ o'clock P. M.

FRIDAY, 7½ P. M.—Met pursuant to adjournment. Body called to order by the Moderator.

Prayer by Elder J. H. Creighton.

The special order was the report on Missions. Dr. Baily made extended remarks on Foreign Missions, after which a public collection was made in behalf of this enterprise, resulting in *cash* \$24 75, *pledges* \$1 75.

The Association adjourned until 9 o'clock next day without disposing of the report.

SATURDAY, OCT. 6—9 A. M.

The Association reassembled and devoted an hour to prayer and praise to Almighty God.

Regular order suspended to receive a request of Friendship Baptist Church in Washington. Referred to Committee on Documents and Requests.

Regular order resumed, and report of Committee on Temperance submitted. Discussed by Elders W. H. DeWitt, J. H. Fendly, H. Adams, the Moderator and Elder P. C. Drew. The report elicited enthusiastic attention, and on its adoption [Appendix D] Brother Drew offered the following complimentary resolution to the friends of Prohibition in Clarke county:

Resolved, That we as a body heartily congratulate the citizens of Clarke county upon the victory they have achieved over the stupendous evil of intemperance through the Prohibition Law, and we hereby pledge to them our unreversed co-operation in the perpetuation of this law.

The resolution was adopted.

Regular order suspended, and consideration of report on Missions resumed.

Dr. Baily addressed the subject on the feature of State Missions, showing its steadily growing progress, and particularly pointing out the success of Missionaries Elders Parker and McGill in this Association. At the conclusion of his address the following *special* collection was taken up to supplement the salaries of Missionaries in the bounds of this Association, viz:

CASH.

The Moderator.....	\$ 5 00	L. M. Bradly.....	50
The Clerk.....	5 00	R. M. Hunter.....	50
J. W. Dickinson.....	5 00	No Names.....	11 65
Isaac Grant.....	5 00	Total Cash.....	\$66 65
J. Q. Lipscomb.....	5 00		
Jack Tompkins.....	5 00		
Wm. Glass.....	50		
J. H. Fendly (for churches)..	5 00		
W. A. Parker.....	2 50		
A. J. Pace.....	2 50		
S. P. Tucker.....	1 00		
D. White.....	1 00		
J. H. Creighton.....	1 00		
George Grenade.....	1 00		
—, Anderson.....	1 00		
J. W. McGill.....	1 00		
R. J. W. DeWitt.....	1 00		
L. W. Godbold.....	1 00		
L. Cammack.....	1 00		
John Hill.....	1 00		
I. Walter Martin.....	1 00		
W. F. Thornton.....	1 00		
W. F. Fountaine.....	50		
T. M. Baily.....	1 00		

L. M. Bradly.....	50
R. M. Hunter.....	50
No Names.....	11 65

Total Cash..... \$66 65

PLEDGES.

J. C. Kelly.....	\$ 5 00
A. J. Hearne.....	5 00
W. K. Thomas.....	5 00
A. G. Westbrook.....	5 00
J. L. Guinn.....	5 00
W. H. DeWitt (churches)....	5 00
Mt. Gilead Church (delegate)	5 00
Lower Peach Tree Church,	
(delegates).....	5 00
Bethel (P. C. Drew).....	5 00
Subscription in hands of J.	
W. Dickinson.....	3 00
J. Matthews.....	2 50
*Parson Davis.....	5 00

Total Pledges..... \$55 50

Aggregate Collection..... \$122 15

*Bro. M. F. Setzler afterwards paid cash, special collection State Line Mission, 50c.

Report adopted. [Appendix E.]

Elder P. C. Drew offered the following :

Resolved, That the Bethel Association convene in its next annual session on Saturday morning, 10 o'clock, before the third Sunday in September, 1894.

On motion of the Clerk, temporarily laid on the table.

The following was adopted :

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of Elders W. A. Parker and J. W. Dickinson and Brethren J. Q. Lipscomb and Isaac Grant, be appointed to confer with the State Mission Board on supplying the Gospel to points embraced in the report on State Missions.

On motion, adjourned to 2 o'clock P. M.

2 P. M.—Reassembled. Prayer by Elder L. M. Bradly.

The Committee on Preaching reported : Bro. Bradly to preach at the Court House at 2½ P. M. this day.

Regular order suspended and the resolution to fix the time of next annual session taken from the table and adopted.

On motion, Bro. A. G. Westbrook, of Nanafalia, was granted leave of absence.

Regular order resumed, and the report on aged and infirm ministers and widows and orphans submitted.

Elder H. Adams advocated its adoption in a practical, feeling speech. So did Elder J. H. Fendly. (Pending the discussion a special collection of \$16 10 was taken for the benefit of our aged ministerial brethren, L. L. Fox and Nathan Thomas.)

The report was adopted. [Appendix F.]

The report of the Committee on Correspondence was submitted and adopted. [Appendix G.]

The Committee on Distribution submitted their report, which was adopted. [Appendix H.]

The report on Nominations, Documents and Requests was submitted and adopted. [Appendix I.]

The Committee on the Alabama Baptist and Foreign Mission Journal made a report, which was adopted after an ineffectual effort to amend. [Appendix J.]

The Committee on Preaching reported : Dr. T. M. Baily to preach at the Court House at 11 o'clock to-morrow, and Elder G. M. Parker in this house at 2 P. M.

The report of the committee to confer with the State Board was adopted. [Appendix K.]

The Committee on Finance submitted a report, which was laid on the table.

MISCELLANEOUS.

By P. C. Drew :

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of Brothers J. R. Cowan, L. W. Godbold, D. M. H. Dansby, J. L. Hollis and W. F. Setzler, be appointed and requested to labor in the spirit of meekness at as early a day as practicable with the Jefferson and Spring Hill churches to bring about an amicable settlement of the difference now existing between said churches.

The Moderator announced the following standing committees :

On Aged and Infirm Ministers and their Orphans and Widows.—

F. H. McGill, J. Q. Lipscomb and A. J. Pace.

On Missions.—W. A. Parker, Lee Tucker and J. W. Dunaway.

On Ministerial Education.—P. C. Drew, S. G. Woolf and W. B. Jackson.

On Sabbath Schools.—L. M. Bradley, J. A. Huccabee and S. P. Tucker.

On Temperance.—R. M. Hunter, A. G. Westbrook and F. M. Dunaway.

Woman's Central Committee.—Miss Kate Perkins, Miss Mary King, Mrs. W. F. Perkins, Mrs. S. G. Woolf, Mrs. R. J. Compton and Mrs. Mary Kelly.

On Religious State of Churches.—P. C. Drew, H. Adams and S. B. Jackson.

On Order of Business.—P. C. Drew, L. M. Bradley and W. F. Perkins.

The Association adjourned until to-morrow.

SABBATH-DAY, OCTOBER 7, 1883.

The Association came together at 9 o'clock and devoted the usual hour to devotional exercises.

The report on Sabbath Schools was submitted, and after discussion by Elders R. M. Hunter, H. Adams and Dr. Baily, the report was adopted. [Appendix L.]

On motion, the hour of preaching was postponed to 11½ o'clock.

The following resolutions were adopted, to-wit:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be and are hereby tendered Grove Hill Church and community for their hospitality during our stay among them.

Resolved, That the Clerk be allowed the usual amount (\$20.00) for his services, and that he expend the remainder of the Minute Fund in printing and distributing the minutes.

By Bro. Fendly :

Resolved, That the Clerk distribute the minutes in proportion to the amount sent up by the churches, and that he send one or two copies to such churches as are not represented at this session.

The Educational Executive Committee submitted a statement showing that they had received \$195 00, and had paid out for beneficiaries Bradly and Hunter \$248 65.

Report received, and the Treasurer instructed to pay deficit.

By Bro. Drew :

Resolved, That the committee appointed to prepare an order of business, to be submitted at the next sitting of the Association, have said order published in the Alabama Baptist before the meeting of the body.

By Bro. Parker :

Resolved, That the Treasurer be instructed to pay over to the State Mission Board whatever funds may be left in his hands for Ministerial Education after paying present indebtedness of the Association, and that the Pastors of this Association be requested to collect amounts pledged for education and forward during the year to the Treasurer of the State Mission Board. Provided, this does not include special funds for the support of Brethren Cammack and Huccabee.

The special committee to take charge of the funds and supervise the education of Brethren Cammack and Huccabee made a report and it was adopted. [Appendix N.]

The hour for preaching having arrived Elder F. H. McGill preached the sermon on missions from Mark 16: 15, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Collections taken up from the congregation for State Missions: at the church \$4 50, at the court house \$7 10, total \$11 60.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock.

Pursuant to adjournment reassembled and opened with singing, Bro. W. A. Parker leading in prayer.

The report of the Committee on Finance was taken from the table and adopted. [Appendix M.]

On motion, the Clerk was allowed to add to the report so as to include all contributions of the present session. [See the Appendix M.]

The Treasurer was, on motion, excused from making a report until next session.

Brother J. H. Creighton, in behalf of the churches desiring to form a new Association, asked for their letters of dismissal.

Brother Drew moved that they be granted, and that the Clerk be instructed to write them.

Brother Parker offered an amendment that the Clerk be relieved from writing the letters.

The amendment prevailed and the motion thus amended passed.

On motion, the Association adjourned to convene with the Bethel Church, McKinley, Marengo county, Ala., on Saturday, 10 A. M., before the third Sabbath in September, 1884.

JOHN W. JONES, *Moderator*.

J. R. COWAN, *Clerk*.

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON JOHN TALBERT FUND.—A.

We your committee beg leave to report, that we have inquired after the fund raised by the Association in past years and find the amount to be thirty dollars, which is in the hands of S. G. Woolf, Esq., Linden, Ala. Whereupon we ordered a suitable tombstone to be placed over the grave of our deceased brother, John Talbert, at a cost of forty-five dollars.

J. Q. LIPSCOMB,
W. K. THOMAS,
F. H. MCGILL.

REVISION OF CONSTITUTION.—B.

Your committee beg leave to report, that while they find some necessity for revision of the constitution of this Association, owing to the fact that a new Association is likely to be formed at no distant day, they recommend that the matter of revision be postponed.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. M. PARKER, *Chairman*.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.—C.

Your committee esteem it a high privilege to be assigned the duty of advocating a cause so praiseworthy as that of Ministerial Education. And they enter upon the duty of this report the more cheerfully since they realize that they have the hearty co-operation of the Association, as shown by what you have done in the past and what you are now doing in this laudable enterprise.

The necessity of Ministerial Education, so patent to every intelligent and unprejudiced mind, we trust you fully appreciate. The very nature of the minister's commission and office verifies the necessity of his education. Go teach,

or disciple, all nations, said Christ to his Disciples. It is certain that teaching presupposes the ability to teach, and the ability certainly includes information, knowledge, education. Therefore, from this standpoint, it is evident that the minister of Christ's gospel should be so furnished with knowledge as to be able to correctly interpret, explain, expound and communicate the sacred oracles of God.

Moreover, the people preached to have learned to regard preaching as a synonym with teaching. Hence *they demand* of every one who ministers to them in holy things real instruction; and they rightly and reasonably expect the instruction to be clearer and more profound than they get from any other source. Through the agency of cheap and abundant literature, books, tracts, and periodicals, and numerous schools and colleges, our people are advancing in education with the spirit of the nineteenth century. Ministers of the gospel must go in advance of this progress, otherwise they will find themselves depreciated by the most long suffering and thereby lose their power for good. Thus we see two forces impelling the minister to education: Christ says, go teach; and the people say, lead us up higher.

How shall the necessity and the demand be met? Evidently by the cultivation of the mind and the acquirement of knowledge. How shall this be done? Some have undertaken to accomplish the desired end at home, in connection with secular employment, and some have accomplished much by the process, and have improved themselves more or less and attained to a degree of usefulness. But the chances for partial or total failure under such a procedure are numerous and the difficulties are mountainous. The minister who toils during the day at secular employment and studies at night enough to accomplish anything, not only impairs his health, but, as one has said, lights the candle of his life at both ends and sticks a red-hot poker to the middle. Should his constitution not fail, his slow, uphill progress against the tide of difficulties would in most cases bring about discouragement equivalent to failure. Should circumstances favor his perseverance in the pursuit of an education at home, the time required to accomplish the end by the slow process would exhaust the vigor of his life, and he would have nothing to devote to the service of Christ but the remnant of declining years. The man who holds on to his secular business while in pursuit of an education to preach, will find himself always getting ready to preach but never ready. The harvest is too great and the laborers are too few to wait on such a slow process.

A solution of the problem as to how the necessity and demand for ministerial education shall be met, devolves both upon the aspirants to education and the churches. Let those who desire to obtain an education leave their farms and merchandise and give their time to the pursuit of knowledge at school under competent teachers. Then let the churches come up fully to their support.

By this means the difficulties already alluded to would be avoided, and our young men, after a few years, would come out equipped and ready for active service in the vineyard of the Lord.

And surely the churches of the Bethel Association have great cause to *thank God* and *take courage* to do more for the education of ministers, since the divine blessing has smiled so propitiously upon what they have already done, in reflecting blessings through the men helped to the credit and prosperity of the

Association. Seven or more active men, whom you have helped to educate are now earnestly laboring in your bounds, and their work comes up to you to-day and forms a part of the vigor and prosperity of the Association. Your present beneficiaries, Bros. Bradley and Hunter, during the last scholastic year have been both successful students and pastors of churches, and the churches through their instrumentalities have been wonderfully built up to the credit of the Association. Not only has God blessed you by these reflex influences, but he smiles upon you constantly calling out and keeping before you other men to receive your benefactions and to preach the "glorious gospel of the blessed God." within your bounds. Surely these blessings should stimulate and encourage us to increased zeal and a new impetus in behalf of the grand cause of Ministerial Education.

Respectfully submitted,

P. C. DREW,
J. H. CREIGHTON,
F. M. DUNAWAY.

TEMPERANCE REPORT.—D.

After many years of peaceable submission to the tyrannical chains and the galling yoke of intemperance; after orphans and widows have made the stoutest hearts sicken with their piteous cries of untold misery, and the flushed face of the rum-seller grow pale; after some of the best talent in every profession in life has been blighted for time and eternity; after the earth has been filled with weeping parents, whose gray hairs were brought in sorrow to the grave; after the national character of every nation under heaven has been tarnished, the world reeling under intoxication, and branded with the just stigma of moral cowardice, every christian denomination has arisen as if by magic, terrible as an army with many banners, rushing on in one solid phalanx against the legions of Bacchus.

It is with pleasure that your committee report the outlook of the temperance cause. Our army is strong and still strengthening. The tramp of myriads is heard in the distance marching on to reinforce our ranks. Realizing the power of our great denomination we urge them to wield their influence in behalf of Prohibition. It is time for every christian to shoulder arms and fall into ranks. The State Legislatures are giving this subject serious thought. Several States have adopted the prohibition law. A few of them have ordered the public schools to teach the effects of alcoholic drinks on the human system. So much has this subject warmed the bosom of every true patriot that it has forced its way into the halls of the United States Congress. While we do not fear the final issue of the struggle between temperance and its foes, yet we urge every man to do his duty. We believe it to be our duty as a religious body and as individual christians to labor for constitutional prohibition. In the election of officers this should not be forgotten. No man who is a friend to the liquor traffic should have the authority and influence with which an office invests him. May the prayer go up from fifty millions of people in America, "The Lord rule over us with temperate, God fearing and God serving men."

R. M. HUNTER,
J. W. DUNAWAY.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.—E.

The hopeful, trustful heart and consecrated life of William Carey have

done much for the enlightenment and salvation of those who dwell in heathen lands. He, as the first foreign missionary, had but little to encourage him and much to oppose him. Having no other encouragement or convincing argument to kindle within him an interest in the salvation of heathendom than a suggestion caused by the study and the teaching of geography, he decided in some way to carry the gospel to those who, he believed, must be occupying the countries of which it (geography) taught.

With only a few nations having the gospel, no enterprise advocating its promulgation, and his warmest friends saying it was a wild undertaking, he said, "Let us attempt great things for God; let us expect great things from God."

We can scarcely believe that Carey himself could have expected such grand results in the missionary work as have been achieved. From a little work in India it has rolled on to China, Africa, South America and Mexico, until all nations of the earth are having the gospel preached to them. But, brethren, the work is not all done—our missionaries in foreign fields must be sustained. The black man, the red man, the Chinaman on our own shores, and the poor still need the gospel preached to them. Circumstances have reversed since the days of Carey. Then he had little to encourage and much to discourage, now we have much to encourage and little to discourage.

During the past year a good work has been done at Linden. The Baptists there have a neat, comfortable house almost finished. Part of the money is already in hand to furnish the house, when completed, with books, chandeliers, &c. At the protracted meeting in August, Linden raised \$45 00 for ministerial education. We also claim an interest at St. Stephens. Bro G. M. Parker is missionary pastor there. That place has also built a comfortable house during the past year. The permanent colportage fund, which has been raised during the past year, is a great aid in circulating religious literature. As your committee we suggest that the State Mission Board be requested to investigate the mission field at Dayton, and if it is thought best, and also if practicable, to supply the destitution there the ensuing year. We recommend that those points at which our missionary pastors are now laboring that are not self-sustaining, be still supplied.

Respectfully submitted.

W. B. WILLIAMS,
L. M. BRADLEY.

Amendment accepted:

Resolved That Boiling Springs Church, in Wilcox county, in this Association, be recommended to the State Mission Board to be supplied with the gospel.

INFIRM MINISTERS.—F.

Your committee find the contributions for aged ministers has increased from \$8 20 last year to \$30 75. It is gratifying to see the churches improving in this direction, but the improvement is by far too slow. While there has been so much written, and a great deal more said, by wise brethren from various parts of the State, trying to develop some plan by which God's aged servants might be kept from suffering and unnecessary uneasiness about their daily support, after physical strength has failed and they are not able to preach the gospel of glad tidings to a dying world. But all plans have failed to develop anything permanent, therefore your committee feel at a loss to add anything that will cause this branch of christian work to advance. The only plan conceiva-

ble to your committee is to appeal to the hearts and consciences of the followers of the meek and lowly Jesus, and, if possible, get them to realize the responsibility that rests upon each of them. This Association gave last year about one-third of a cent per member for this grand work. The early christians sold their possessions and gave to the poor as they had need, and we are not willing to give a nickel per member. Shall we have to reap as we have sown. Your committee would ask each minister of this Association to bring this matter before their churches and urge their people to contribute to this very important work, for it is a sad reflection on any people to let the needy suffer, and especially an old, feeble, worn out minister.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. PERKINS, Chairman.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.—G.

Your Committee on Correspondence beg leave to report:

LETTER TO THE ALABAMA STATE CONVENTION.

DEAR BRETHREN: We delegate as Messengers to represent us in your body any member of our Association who may present this letter to you.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. WILLIAMS,

W. K. THOMAS.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DISTRIBUTION.—H.

We your committee recommend that the original apportionment be adopted, and, if there be, during the next associational year, a demand for increased contributions, that each church increase its contributions such a per cent. of the apportionment as shall meet the demands.

Respectfully submitted,

P. C. DREW,

J. W. DICKINSON.

J. W. ARMISTEAD.

J. C. KELLY.

ON NOMINATIONS, DOCUMENTS AND REQUESTS.—I.

Your Committee on Nominations, Documents and Requests, beg leave to report that any brethren of this Association attending the Alabama Baptist State Convention and sister Associations be authorized to represent us in those bodies. We recommend that Elder F. H. McGill be appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next convention of this body, and Elder P. C. Drew be appointed to act as alternate; and that Elder W. A. Parker preach the Missionary Sermon.

Friendship Church, Washington county, sends through Elder J. V. Stringer, Jackson, Ala., fifty cents, and asks that copies of minutes to that amount be forwarded to her. Recommend the request be granted.

Touching the difficulty between Mt. Pleasant and Spring Hill churches your committee found a settlement at this time impossible, and refer the matter to the Association for its action.

We recommend that the next meeting of this body be held with Bethel Church, at McKinley, Marengo county, Ala.

J. W. ARMISTEAD, for Com

REPORT ON ALA. BAPTIST AND FOR. MISSION JOURNAL.—J.

Judging from the increased circulation of the Alabama Baptist we feel assured that our people are awaking out of the unfortunate lethargy into

which many of them have fallen. It is gratifying to note that upon the just merits of this paper it has found its way into so many Baptist homes. When once subscribed for it becomes indispensable. We insist that every pastor recommend this paper to his people.

In addition to our State organ we are pleased to recommend to the denomination the Foreign Mission Journal, a most excellent means through which we may learn of all the work which is being accomplished in foreign fields through the Southern Baptist Convention.

We are satisfied that if this valuable journal has a wider circulation our people would become more in sympathy with the mission cause in foreign lands; hence the foreign mission interests would be greatly expedited.

R. M. HUNTER,
J. W. DUNAWAY.

REPORT OF COM. TO CONFER WITH STATE BOARD.—K.

Your committee begs to report, that they recommend that the following points of destitution be supplied by the State Missionary Board as follows, to-wit: Dayton, night appointment, by Elder P. C. Drew; Flat Woods, by Eld. J. W. Dunaway; Boiling Springs, by Bro. Cammack; Linden, by Bro. F. H. McGill; Jackson, night appointment, by Bro. J. H. Creighton; Destitution in Washington county, by Bro. G. M. Parker. And we also recommend that the Board supplement the salaries of the above brethren as in its judgment it seems it safe to do, and this Association co-operate with the Board in raising funds to meet their salaries.

(Signed.)

COMMITTEE.

SABBATH SCHOOL REPORT.—L.

Of this great, important and under estimated work your committee is pleased to report a growing interest. There were only eighteen schools, 512 teachers and pupils in our whole Association, as shown by our minutes of last year. We are happy to report for this year twenty schools and 727 teachers and pupils. We feel greatly encouraged, expecting to see, and that soon, a great advance in the Sabbath School work, for we believe we shall ere long behold many ranks of infantry, though weak, yet powerful, marching on to victory under the peaceful banner of love.

We know no change to recommend, except where schools are using undenominational or Peco-Baptist literature. To such schools, teachers and pastors, allow your committee to say we disapprove of all literature in Sabbath Schools that is not purely baptistic in every sense of the word.

R. M. HUNTER,
J. W. DUNAWAY.

REPORT ON CAMMACK AND HUCCABEE.—N.

Your Committee on Education recommend that L. W. Cammack be sent to McKinley to school, under the charge of Rev. P. C. Drew; and further recommend that J. A. Huccabee continue at school to W. A. Parker until 1st January, 1884, then be sent to P. C. Drew, at McKinley.

W. F. SETZLER,
J. B. PERKINS,
W. K. THOMAS.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE,—M.

FINANCE COMMITTEE *in account with Bethel Association :*

DR.

To cash received from all sources	\$ 485 15	
To vouchers.....	398 16	
		\$883 31

CR.

By amount paid for State Missions.....	\$162 70	
.. .. Ministerial Education.....	105 30	
.. .. Foreign Missions.....	67 90	
.. .. Home Missions.....	40 30	
.. .. Aged and Infirm Ministers	30 85	
.. .. Colportage.....	5 60	
.. .. Minutes.....	59 90	
.. .. John Talbert Fund	1 00	
		\$473 55
.. .. State Missions (Sunday collections)....		11 60
.. .. Various Vouchers.....		338 16
		\$883 31

Unpaid Pledges—State Missions.....	\$120 00
Foreign Missions	29 50
Home Missions.....	27 00
Ministerial Education.....	416 00
Aged and Infirm Ministers	4 00
Colportage	2 00

Spring Hill Church requests that her contribution of \$10 55 for Aged and Infirm Ministers be paid over to Elder L. L. Fox.

Received of Finance Committee four hundred and eighty-five and 15-100 dollars in cash. W. F. SETZLER, Treasurer.

Your committee beg leave to submit the foregoing account, with the vouchers and Treasurer's receipt.

J. B. PERKINS,
D. WHITE,
T. T. DAUGHDRILL.

Grove Hill, Oct. 6th, 1883.

NOTE BY CLERK.—The Association collected the following amounts which did not pass through the hands of the Finance Committee :

For Minutes.....	\$ 1 00
For Education of Brethren Cammack and Huccabee—cash.....	34 50
.. .. —pledges.....	83 50
For Foreign Missions—cash.....	24 75
.. .. —pledges.....	1 75
For Special State Mission for Brethren Parker and McGill—cash...	67 15
.. .. —pledges.....	55 50
Total.....	\$267 15
Add collections reported by committee.....	883 31
	\$1,150 46

CLERK,

CHURCH STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	THEIR ADDRESSES.	NAMES OF PASTORS.	Sabbath of Meeting.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Males in Fellowship.	Females in Fellowship.	Total Membership.	Sabbath Schools.	Number of Teachers.	Number of Scholars.	Total Attendance.	Number Church Mem- bers in Attendance.
Belchell	McKinley, Marengo Co., Ala.	P. C. Drew	2	11	3	2	2	2	1	26	56	82	1	4	60	64	23
Belchell	Belchell, Wilcox	L. M. Brantly	2	4	2	2	2	1		9	22	31					
Boiling Springs	Boiling Springs, Wilcox Co., Ala.	F. H. McGill	1	13	2	2	1			32	30	71					
Antioch	Linden, Marengo Co., Ala.	No Letter or Representative															
Providence	Old Spring Hill, Marengo Co., Ala.	R. M. Hunter	2	23	3	2	2	1		24	57	81	1	3	20	23	10
Spring Hill	Jefferson, Marengo Co., Ala.	W. A. Parker	Ev'g Sab	10	1	1	1	1		13	18	31	1	4	39	43	18
St. Pleasant	Sweet Water	F. H. McGill		25	1	4	10	1		19	31	50	1	2	20	22	10
Amwell	Linden	W. A. Tucker		4	5	3	3	5		12	17	29	2	4	20	21	25
Hills	Shiloh	W. H. DeWitt	4	13	5	3	2	1		48	83	131	1	3	13	16	6
Nantallia	Shiloh	L. M. Brantly		5	5	2	2				28						
Linden	Dumas, Storey	F. H. McGill	3	3	3	3	3	2		33	40	73					
Goose Creek	Jefferson, Wilcox	W. A. Parker	2	4	1	1	4	1		13	18	31	1	2	12	14	12
Friendship	Hampton, Marengo	J. B. Small	4	8	3	1	3	13		52	87	140	1	5	39	44	22
Pal Woods Chapel	Nixonville	J. W. Dunaway	4	5	5	2	2	2		38	28	66	1	2	12	14	40
Concord	Marlin's Station, Dallas	P. C. Drew	2 & 4	5	5	1	1	1		21	21	42					
Prescott	Belchell, Wilcox	W. A. Parker	4	2	3	1	1	1		21	22	43					
Elton	Pine Hill	Nathan Thomas	4	8	1	2	1			21	30	51					
West Bend	Cliffville, Clarke	George M. Parker	1							21	19	40					
Totals				133	43	25	73	27	16	430	691	1227	10	20	255	264	166

Average Membership of Churches furnishing statistics 66.

CHURCH STATISTICS.—WITHDRAWING CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	THEIR ADDRESS.	NAMES OF PASTORS.	Sabbath of Meeting.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Males in Fellowship.	Females in Fellowship	Total Membership.	Sabbath Schools.	Number of Teachers.	Number of Scholars.	Total Attendance.	Number Church Mem- bers in Attendance.
Horeb	Grove Hill, Clarke Co., Ala	J. H. Creighton.	3	2	1					18	40	58	1	3	28	31	12
Rockville	Singleton,	J. W. Dickinson	2	2	0					11	14	25	1	1	15	17	13
Grove Hill	Grove Hill,	R. J. W. DeWitt	4	5	1					16	62	78	1	2	18	16	15
Amity	Jackson,	A. J. Stringer	1	15	1					27	20	47	1	2	14	10	23
Penick	Jackson,	R. J. W. DeWitt	2	5	1					14	28	42	2	4	40	44	
River Hill	Jackson,	A. J. Stringer	4	10	1					17	57	74	1	1	20	24	
Slave Creek	Deaf Level,	R. J. W. DeWitt	1	10	1					18	34	52	6	5	75	79	
Pleasant Grove	Deaf Level,	J. W. Dickinson	3	8	2					14	28	42	1	4	40	44	
New Hope	Hoctaw Corner,	W. H. DeWitt	2	7	1					18	28	46	1	4	40	44	
Deep Creek	Hoctaw, Marengo	J. V. Stringer	1	7	1					14	28	42	1	4	40	44	
Mt. Shutt	Walker Springs, Clarke Co., Ala.	W. H. DeWitt	3	1	2					8	13	21	1	1	8	9	
Forest Springs	Marvin,	J. H. Penny	3	1	2					12	14	26	1	1	15	16	
Salem	Northborough,	Bracket Small	3	1	1					13	33	46	1	1	15	16	
1 Jane Creek	Bedford, Wilcox	J. H. Penny	3	8	1					20	31	51	1	1	32	33	
1 Peach	Colleville,	(No letter)	3	2	1					9	14	23	1	1	15	16	
New Prospect	Walker Springs,	R. J. W. DeWitt	1	4	4					13	17	30	1	1	35	38	100
Mt. Gilford	Bash,	J. H. Penny	2	4	3					17	27	44	1	5	45	48	
Elm	Hoctaw Corner,	J. H. Small	1	20	9					43	71	114	1	5	132	136	
Mt. Vernon	Talladula Springs,	J. H. Penny	4	9	7					22	27	49			51	54	
Smith	Hoctaw, Marengo	W. H. DeWitt	4	1	2					13	33	46			30	34	15
Hoctaw	Hoctaw, Marengo	J. H. Penny	4	1	2					12	30	42			30	34	15
Baswell's Creek	Grove Hill, Clarke	J. W. Dickinson	1	2	3					16	61	77			15	16	4
Lower Peach Tree	Lower Peach Tree, Wilcox	J. W. Dickinson	2	3	3					8	9	17			15	16	4
Totals				110	77	22	18	22	7	627	981	1610	1544	352	386	174	

Average Membership of Churches furnishing statistics 78.

*Name changed to Evergreen.

AMOUNTS PLEDGED.

[illegible]

FINANCIAL STATISTICS—Withdrawing Churches.

AMOUNTS PAID.										AMOUNTS PLEDGED.												
CHURCHES.	AMOUNTS PAID.					AMOUNTS PLEDGED.																
	State Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Home Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Annual Salary of Pastor.	Incidental Church Exp's	Colportage.	Aged & Infirm Ministers.	John Talbert Fund.	Minutes.	Total.	State Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Home Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Annual Salary of Pastor.	Incidental Church Exp's	Colportage.	Aged & Infirm Ministers.	John Talbert Fund.	Minutes.	Total.
Borch.	\$5.00	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$5.00	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$2.00	\$17.00	\$5.00	\$	\$	\$							\$
Rockville.	3.10	1.50	2.00	15.00	150.00			2.40		1.00	10.00											10.00
Grove Hill.	3.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	200.00		5.00			2.00	287.00				10.00							
Amity.	5.00	2.50	2.50	5.00	100.00					1.50	117.00											
Princeton.	2.50									1.05	1.05											
Stiver Hill.										1.50	1.50											
Slave Creek.										1.15	167.15											
Pleasant Grove.	3.00	2.50	2.50	5.00	150.00	39.30		3.00		1.50	254.00											
New Hope.	15.25	9.70	9.65	49.05	125.00			5.10		1.00	3.70											
Deep Creek.				2.70						2.60	181.15				100.00							100.00
Mt. Sinai.				11.30	150.00			80		2.60	3.85											
Forest Springs.	8.45	4.60	4.60							1.50	1.50											
Salem.	65									2.85	6.60											
Elaine Creek.	3.75									1.50	10.00											
Greenbush.	3.50	2.50	2.50							1.50	51.65											
New Prospect.	1.15				50.00					1.50	133.30											
Mt. Gilbrand.	3.00		2.30		125.00	221.40				3.00	223.00											
Elam.										1.50												
Mt. Vernon.		50									50											
Salt Lake.				5.80	125.00					1.50	132.30											
Holbrook.				2.50	150.00					2.00	152.50											
Bessie's Creek.	1.70	1.00	1.00							1.50	5.70											
Lower French Tree.	3.50	2.50	2.50	2.50						2.00	162.50											
Totals.	\$102.05	\$28.30	\$28.65	\$111.35			\$5.00	\$11.30		\$37.65		\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$120.00							\$122.00

*None changed to Evergreen.

†The \$100 pledged for ministerial education is for the benefit of A. J. Hearne.

